

# Chamber onnection

Upcoming Events  
& Photos  
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New Members &  
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Volume 6, No. 6 • July 2019 • [www.kilgorechamber.com](http://www.kilgorechamber.com)

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Morning  
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Published monthly  
by the Kilgore  
News Herald

Your personal invitation to become a leader in your community. To become a member of the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau. To amplify your visibility and credibility. To build relationships through engagement. To make connections. To access leaders in your area. To better promote your business. To get noticed. To gain training and development. To be heard as we advocate for your business. To impact Kilgore's economy.

Have you ever recognized you are generally so busy working "in" your business that you're unable to work "on" your business? We work daily for our Member Investors. Here are nine reasons investing in the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau is not a fruitless burden on time, but rather a value-packed benefit to your business.

**The Purpose** of the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau is to cultivate a strong business and industrial environment in Kilgore, creating a vibrant place to live, learn, work and play.

### 1. Amplify Your Visibility & Credibility

Out of sight, out of mind! You want to remain in the public's eye, especially when times are good. Business investors are able to leverage their resources through the Chamber, giving them cutting-edge visibility by standing out from the competition. We impact business by creating a sense of identity through promotion.

### 2. Build Relationships through Engagement

There are endless opportunities to make new business contacts, receive qualified re-

ferrals and form partnerships that will help you grow your business. People do not do business with a sign on the outside of a building; they do business with real people. When they need something for business or personal use, they turn to the people they have developed a personal relationship with. Build and strengthen your network through one or all 20 plus events and programs designed to connect you and your business with other businesses.

### 3. Making Connections!

The Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau provides niche programming for your business to make these connections, such as, Morning Brew, BizConnect Luncheon, BizLinx New Business Reception, STAR Gala, Black Gold Texas Tea – Celebrating Women



Jill R. McCartney, IOM,  
CCEO-AP  
President & CEO

in Business, Capitol Connect and other events and programs.

### 4. Access to Business Leaders

Building relationships is a huge benefit of making an investment in the Chamber. When you invest in the Chamber and get actively involved, you'll discover the value on your investment through meeting other businesses.

**See CONSIDER THIS, Page 3**

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# Talking Tourism



**Ryan Polk**  
Tourism Mgr.

Hello July! The days seem to be a bit longer, and the memories are already sweeter in Kilgore this summer. Now is the time to check off your summer bucket list items as you discover, relax, and connect with those you love in the City of Stars.

Kilgore's Fourth of July Extravaganza kick started this month with food, fun, music and Texas-sized fireworks for the whole family. And the theatrical fun continues over at the Texas Shakespeare Festival while the Kil-

gore City Park plays host to Fridays After 5 in August. Now all I need is a cold ice cream sandwich from Downtown D'lites.

All good things come with patience and perseverance. And I'm thrilled to say that I've received my Certified Tourism Executive (CTE) designation from Travel & Tourism College, a program of the Texas Travel Industry Association (TTIA). After completing 3 years of coursework, I also completed my capstone project required for the certification designation.

The amount of industry-focused ideas and best-used practices that I've acquired in 3 years has been channeled to many Visit Kilgore projects, including the 5-Star Hospitality and Destination Training Program among others. This has been a rewarding experience for my professional career.



Photo courtesy of John Dodd

Tourism is vital for economic development, and by earning this designation, I've strengthened my role in marketing Kilgore as a destination.

**SEE TOURISM, Page 2**



Ryan Polk receives CTE Certification



Photo courtesy of John Dodd

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**TOURISM, From Page 2**

The Texas Shakespeare Festival has officially opened the curtain its 34th season! And audiences are already raving about this year's productions. Performances for the 2019 summer season go through July 28 and they include: "As You Like It," "Born Yesterday," "Othello," "Into The Woods," and "The Girl Who Cried Throgmonster." The season historically sells out fast so you may want to reserve your seat through the TSF Box Office, at [texasshakespeare.com](http://texasshakespeare.com), or by calling in orders to 903-983-8601.

**What's been brewing in Downtown Kilgore?**

In case you haven't noticed there is a new place to eat, drink and relax with friends in #HistoricDowntownKilgore! That's right, Loco Meaux, located at 302 E. Main St, has been open for over a month! Serving craft beer, small bites and hand-crafted pizza, this is another exciting option in Downtown Kilgore. Loco Meaux's hours are Wednesday – Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Fridays After 5! Aug 2**

After a wonderful season under the star-studded derricks at the World's Rich-

est Acre, Fridays After 5 Concert Series will continue its concerts at Kilgore City Park.

**Potter Fest! Aug 3-10**

Summer is better with air-conditioning, magic, muggles, and movies! This 8 day festival of Harry Potter is set in the historic Texan Theater and includes Tri-Wizard Trivia Tournament, Best Dressed Competition, Potter's favorite treats, and all eight of the Harry Potter films. There will be plenty of prizes and surprises, so make sure you get your ticket today! The festival ticket is \$30 (plus a \$2.62 Eventbrite fee) and is available only at [www.tinyurl.com/kilgorepotterfest](http://www.tinyurl.com/kilgorepotterfest).

With summer in full swing, the park has plenty of space to play and roam for the kids and the Lazy Splash Ranch open to cool off! So bring your lawn chair or blanket and come ready to hear the music and savor the fresh flavors at this concert!

Don't forget to use #VisitKilgore or #KilgoreTX when posting your photos on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter and we may just repost it!

For more tips and ideas and information on happenings and events in Kilgore, visit our website [www.visitkilgore.com](http://www.visitkilgore.com), and stay up-to-date on current events by liking us on Facebook, and following us on Instagram and Twitter at VisitKilgore.

**CONSIDER THIS, From Page 1**

You'll find yourself in situations where you can identify and meet decision-makers face-to-face.

**5. Business Promotion**

The Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau offers a wide variety of affordable promotion options and sponsorship packages that fit every business budget. Being a sponsor provides your business with additional exposure in a cost effective way.

**6. Get Noticed!**

Let people know you're in business even if you don't have time to attend events. Your Chamber investment works for you 24/7 through the online and printed business directories. Chamber investors are able to utilize the online business directory to further promote their company with new marketing options, including logo, map, and business detail. [www.kilgorechamber.com](http://www.kilgorechamber.com) or if your business is tourism related [www.visitkilgore.com](http://www.visitkilgore.com).

**7. Training & Personal Development**

The Chamber provides training and personal development programs at affordable prices by spreading the costs among fellow investors. Continuing education for business is important! The Chamber offers seminars/workshops and a leadership training program, E4 Leadership, to advance business development in the workforce. An educated workforce is crucial to your business and our community!

**8. We Are the Voice for Business!**

Your business is impacted by decisions made outside the community. We represent the business community's views on local, state and national issues and legislation. There are numerous opportunities for your involvement, including, the bi-annual Trip to Austin to meet with

state legislators and government entities face-to-face; and attendance at the Capitol Connect event that brings our state/federal legislators to the table each year to discuss key issues for our community. In addition, the Chamber hosts various Candidate Forums to give voters the opportunity to become better informed about their choices for elected officials during election season. Support us as we represent your company daily on priorities that affect business.

**9. Impact Kilgore's Economy**

Your business benefits from the Chamber's work to foster a nurturing business environment. The Chamber works daily to improve our economy by working hand-in-hand with key organizations that impact Kilgore. Strengthening the economy and improving the quality of life are a main focus for the Chamber. Member investors are able to be a part of growing Kilgore by investing in the Chamber and supporting the role of the staff and board in their daily role to build a stronger economy.

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to read our newsletter and consider membership. I invite you to stop by our office or, give me a call so we can chat about the ways the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau can help make a difference for you. I look forward to it.

We Are Kilgore,

Jill McCartney, President & CEO  
Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau



**POTTER FEST**

**AUGUST 3- 10, 2019**  
**Kilgore, Texas**



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## Business After Hours

Hosted by:



Location:

301 Main Street  
Kilgore, Texas

Thursday, July 25, 2019  
4:30 - 6:30 pm

Join us for Food,  
Drinks & Networking



**September 7 | Rabbit Creek**  
JOIN US FROM 11 A.M. TO 7 P.M. • GATES OPEN AT 8 A.M.



\$20 per person  
\$20 per ATV  
\$20 per Jeep

**SIGN-UP**  
**903-984-5022**  
kilgorechamber.com



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**\$1500**  
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## IT'S KILGORE CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC TIME!

Join us on the green for the Kilgore Chamber Golf Classic! The annual tournament is not only fun and competitive, it also provides you the opportunity to develop or enhance business relationships. The 4-person scramble is set for Friday, September 13 at Tempest Golf Club so get your team signed up quickly.

**Not a Golfer?** There are other ways to be a part of the tournament. By sponsoring the tournament (and we

have a wide variety of sponsorship opportunities) you will be able to gain exposure and showcase your company. Or if interested in making connections, simply volunteer to work the tournament and have a chance to meet company owners and managers.

For a registration form, sponsorship info or volunteer opportunities, go online to [www.KilgoreChamber.com/calendar](http://www.KilgoreChamber.com/calendar) or call us at 903-984-5022.



## GOLF CLASSIC

Friday, September 13, 2019

### Team Registration

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| TEAM NAME: _____      | CIRCLE NUMBER OF CARTS NEEDED... _____ |
| CONTACT PERSON: _____ | NONE 1 2                               |
| ADDRESS: _____        | TEAM ENTRY: _____                      |
| PHONE: _____          | <b>\$500</b>                           |
| EMAIL: _____          | MEMBERS                                |
| TEAM MEMBERS: _____   | <b>\$600</b>                           |
| _____                 | NON-MEMBERS                            |

PLEASE REMIT PAYMENT TO: Kilgore Chamber of Commerce  
PAYABLE BY CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ CSV: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4-PERSON SCRAMBLE

Tempest Golf Club



Start Times:  
Registration 10 a.m.  
Tee Off at Noon

**Entry Deadline:**  
Friday, August 16

### SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE:

Eagle Sponsor: \$1750  
Birdie Sponsor: \$1250  
Scorecard Sponsor: \$750  
Bloody Mary Brunch: \$1200

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## Dear Kilgore:

Once again it is time to prepare for our next E4 Leadership Training program. We are excited to once again bring a quality program to the community to assist in the development of our future leaders.

This program, formerly Leadership Kilgore, has many employee and employer benefits. The program is designed to provide more in-depth corporate leadership training; motivate and encourage community leadership; build confidence in self while building new business and personal relationships; and develop personal leadership characteristics and skills within the individual.

Our objective is to *embark* the participant on an exciting journey to be *enlightened* through education, empowered through experiences and building or relationships, and to ultimately become *engaged* as a stronger leader at their business and in the community.

We have sent out an e-mail to our membership regarding the enrollment and other information to become a participant of the next class.

If you have any questions, feel free to call or email the Chamber President, Jill McCartney, at 903-984-5022 or email to [jmccartney@kilgorechamber.com](mailto:jmccartney@kilgorechamber.com).

Join Us for Our New CHAMBER BUSINESS MIXPO and Get Plugged In

4:30 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M. // THURSDAY, AUG. 22 // AT MEADOWBROOK

COME A LITTLE EARLY. STAY A WHILE!

### WHAT IS IT?

A chamber member mini-mixer and business mini-expo.

### WHERE DOES IT HAPPEN?

Meadowbrook Golf & Event Center

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Reserve a space and spotlight your business to chamber members.

### VENDORS

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| SIGN-UP DEADLINE | AUG. 9    |
| SET-UP MIXPO *   | 3:00 P.M. |
| MIXPO STARTS     | 4:30 P.M. |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS    | 5:00 P.M. |
| 'LAST CALL'      | 7:20 P.M. |
| MIXPO ENDS       | 7:30 P.M. |
| FINISH CLEAN-UP  | 8:30 P.M. |

\* you must be set up by 4 p.m. or your (non-refundable) table will be forfeited

### DETAILS

4:30 - 7:30 p.m. Thursday, August 22, 2019 at Meadowbrook Golf & Event Center  
 \$10 per member includes 2 drink tickets and appetizers (\$20 for non-members)  
 \$60 per booth (includes 6' table, 2 chairs, 2 drink tickets) • Vendor deadline Aug. 9

Each Vendor MUST have a door prize valued (valued \$25-plus) to be given away event's end

### SPONSORSHIPS

Limited sponsorship opportunity available. Seeking 3 Plug In Sponsors at \$350 each. Sponsorship includes: one 6' booth, 2 chairs, including 6 drink tickets, prime location at event, logo placement on advertising, logo placement at event, opportunity to speak at event



813 N. KILGORE STREET  
 KILGORE, TX 75662  
 903-984-5022

[info@kilgorechamber.com](mailto:info@kilgorechamber.com) | [kilgorechamber.com](http://kilgorechamber.com)

[www.automotivesupercenter.com](http://www.automotivesupercenter.com)

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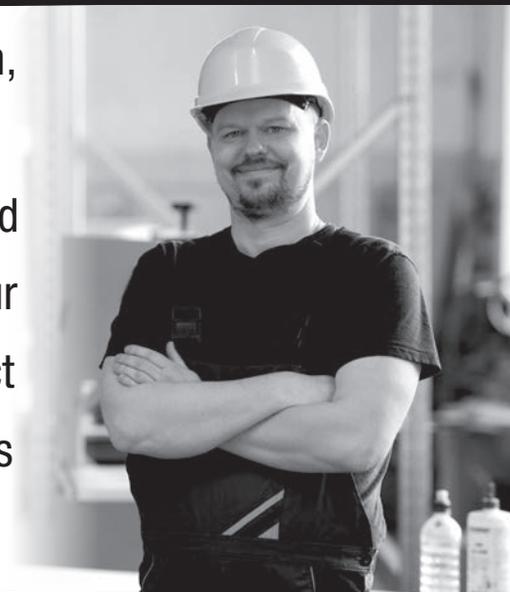
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## New Members!

Cricket Wireless

Pinnacle Coating of East Texas

Find a Chamber Member in the Business Directory at  
[www.KilgoreChamber.com](http://www.KilgoreChamber.com).

**"The purpose of the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau is to cultivate a strong business and industrial environment in Kilgore, creating a vibrant place to live, learn, work and play."**

### KILGORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF

Jill McCartney, President/CEO  
 Lisa Morgan, Member Services Manager  
 Ryan Polk, Tourism Manager

### 2018-19 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

James Murphy, Chairman (Republic Services)  
 Dr. Chris Gratton, Chair Elect  
 (Gratton Chiropractic)  
 Mark Robinson, Vice Chair (AEP/SWEPCO)  
 Billie Mims, Treasurer (Austin Bank)  
 Reece Nichols, Immediate Past Chair  
 (Edward Jones)

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tim Capps, Gabriel/Jordan GMC Buick  
 Pam DeCeault, Citizens National Bank  
 Bobbie Guinn, Arpc Valves & Controls  
 Robert Young, Skeeter Products Inc.  
 Joe Stephens, Brookshire's  
 James Wright, Halliburton Energy Services

#### EX-OFFICIO

Richard Nash, KISD  
 Dr. Brenda Kays, Kilgore College  
 Amanda Nobles, KEDC  
 Josh Selleck, City of Kilgore  
 David Cleveland, East Texas Council of Government



## Member Investor RENEWALS

Ancor Health Center, PA  
 Bodacious Bar-B-Q  
 Closure Systems International  
 Gabriel/Jordan Buick GMC  
 General Dynamics SATCOM  
 Technologies  
 Grace Fellowship of Kilgore

Hydessco, LLC  
 Julie Woods & Associates Real Estate  
 Firm  
 MMI Insurance Agency, LLC  
 Reel East Texas Film Festival  
 Route2 Advertising  
 Telephone Directory of Texas, Inc.





**KILGORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
& VISITORS BUREAU  
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR NEXT**



Thursday, July 18  
8:00 - 9:00 am

**HALLIBURTON**

**2906 FM 349, KILGORE, TX 75662**

Morning Brew, one of the Chamber's business connection events, was sponsored and held at the East Texas Regional Airport. Thank you to Roy Miller and all the staff for hosting an outstanding event! If your business is interested in hosting a Morning Brew, contact Lisa Morgan at the Kilgore Chamber 903-984-5022.



**Chamber Meetings & Events – July/ August**

|         |                         |         |                             |
|---------|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| July 11 | Executive Board Meeting | 12:00pm | Kilgore Chamber             |
| July 15 | Board Meeting           | 12:00pm | Kilgore Chamber             |
| July 18 | Morning Brew            | 8:00am  | Halliburton Energy Services |
| July 25 | Business After Hours    | 4:30pm  | Citizens Bank               |

**Community Events – July/ August**

|         |   |         |                   |
|---------|---|---------|-------------------|
| July 13 | Iron Farm Farmers' Market                 | 8:00 am | Iron Farm         |
| July 15 | Only Summer Night On The Porch            | 8:00 pm | The Back Porch    |
| July 20 | Iron Farm Farmers' Market                 | 8:00 am | Iron Farm         |
| July 27 | Iron Farm Farmers' Market                 | 8:00 am | Iron Farm         |
| Aug 1   | Patrick James is Back                     | 7:00 pm | The Back Porch    |
| Aug 2   | Fridays After 5 - Tyler Dudley Band       | 7:00 pm | Kilgore City Park |
| Aug 3   | Brick Street Blues Band                   | 8:00 pm | The Back Porch    |
| Aug 5   | Music Machine Theatre Camps               | 8:45 am | Kilgore College   |
| Aug 10  | Kilgore Girls & Boys Club Golf Tournament | 1:30 am | Tempest Golf Club |
| Aug 29  | 5-Star Hospitality Training               | 9:00 am | KEDC              |

**Go to [KilgoreChamber.com](http://KilgoreChamber.com) or [VisitKilgore.com](http://VisitKilgore.com) for more event information.**  
**If you have a community event you wish to have listed on the Kilgore Calendar please send your information via email to [info@kilgorechamber.com](mailto:info@kilgorechamber.com), drop it by the Chamber office at 813 N. Kilgore Street. We will be happy to share your event information on the community calendar and via Facebook at KilgoreChamber and VisitKilgore.**



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